

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05

OES-03 OMB-01 AID-05 AGR-05 IGA-01 SS-15 /074 W

----- 047199

R 130014Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5206

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

DIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ

AMCONSUL GUADALAJARA

AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO

AMCONSUL MATAMOROS

AMCONSUL MAZATLAN

AMCONSUL MERIDA

AMCONSUL MONTERREY

AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO

AMCONSUL TIJUANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MEXICO 10417

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: MISSION MONTHLY NARCOTICS REVIEW FOR OCTOBER, 1974

DEPT PASS DIA AA-7

DEPT PASS DEA HDQS FOR EOI - CUSACK

DEPT PASS CUSTOMS HDQS FOR DICKERSON

REF: MEXICO 8693; MEXICO 8694; MEMCON OF OCT. 15,  
STATE 216389

1. SUMMARY: THE BIGGEST EMBASSY NARCOTICS EVENT DURING  
OCTOBER WAS THE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL AND HOPEFULLY STIMULATING  
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ARA NARCOTICS COORDINATOR'S CONFERENCE. A TDY TEAM CAME

FROM THE DEPARTMENT TO HELP PROGRAM THE FY 1975 CAMPAIGN. THE PAPERS ONCE AGAIN CARRIED CRIES OF ALARM CONCERNING THE GUNS-FOR-DRUGS TRAFFIC AND THE DOMESTIC ABUSE PROBLEM. ON THE ENFORCEMENT SIDE, OCTOBER WAS FAR FROM USUAL: THE NOTORIOUS HERNANDEZ BROTHERS WERE RAIDED IN THEIR PENITENTIARY STRONGHOLD; AND IN ANOTHER LIGHTENING-LIKE OPERATION, THE MEXICAN POLICE SEIZED A RECORD HEROIN CACHE.

## 2. EMBASSY AND GOM ACTIVITIES

A. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT NARCOTICS RELATED DIPLOMATIC EVENT OF THE MONTH WAS THE ARA NARCOTICS COORDINATORS' CONFERENCE, HELD IN MEXICO CITY OCTOBER 10-11. THE WASHINGTON COMMUNITY IS OF COURSE WELL AWARE OF DEVELOPMENTS ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE. SPECIAL REPORTS WERE SUBMITTED ON AMBASSADOR VANCE'S CONVERSATION WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA (MEXICO 8693) AND 8694) AND ON US CUSTOMS DEPUTY COMMISSIONER DICKERSON'S TALK WITH TREASURY UNDERSECRETARY RUIZ ALMADA (MEMCON DATED OCTOBER 15).

B. A TDY TEAM COMPRISED OF MESSRS. HALL, VETTER, FINK AND HEISHMAN (USAID) ARRIVED IN MEXICO CITY OCT. 2 TO HOLD WORKING LEVEL CONVERSATIONS WITH THE GOM CONCERNING DETAILS OF THE 1975 COOPERATIVE ERADICATION CAMPAIGN (STATE 216389).

C. THE "ARMS FOR DRUGS" PROBLEM WAS AGAIN IN THE OCTOBER PRESS, WITH THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE CHARGING THAT THE (NOW DEFUNCT) GUERRILLA LEADER LUCIO CABANAS WAS TRAFFICKING IN DRUGS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN WEAPONS, AND THE GOVERNOR OF GUERRERO POINTING UP THE INSTABILITY CAUSED IN HIS STATE BY THE ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF FIREARMS IN EXCHANGE FOR NARCOTICS.

D. THE REFORM OF THE PENAL CODE CONCERNING NARCOTICS OFFENSES PROPOSED BY THE LAWYERS UNION OF THE FEDERAL DISTRICT BROUGHT STRONG REACTION FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. HE SAID THAT THE PROPOSALS TO MODIFY REFERENCES TO NARCOTICS IN THE LAW WERE INAPPROPRIATE BECAUSE MEXICO AS CONFIDENTIAL

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A SIGNATORY OF THE SINGLE NARCOTICS CONVENTION HAD INCORPORATED THAT AGREEMENT INTO THE FUNDAMENTAL LAW OF THE LAND. JUDGE TRUEBA OLIVARES, SPEAKING AT THE FIRST NATIONAL MEETING OF CIRCUIT JUDGES, CALLED FOR HARSHER PENALTIES FOR THE GROWING AND TRAFFICKING IN NARCOTICS, ESPECIALLY MARIJUANA.

E. IN OTHER ITEMS CONCERNING MEXICO'S DOMESTIC DRUG

PROBLEM: (1) THE GOVERNOR OF SINALOA STATED THAT CONSUMPTION OF NARCOTICS IN MEXICO HAD INCREASED THREEFOLD IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS AND THAT SINALOA WAS IN A STATE OF INSECURITY CAUSED BY "OPIUM-GUM FEVER"; (2) A NEW TREATMENT PROGRAM WAS INAUGURATED IN THE FEDERAL DISTRICT, WHERE 5 CLINICS AND TWO HOSPITAL FACILITIES WERE PLACED UNDER DIRECTION OF DR. BELSASSO (DIR. OF MEXICAN CENTER FOR DRUG DEPENDENCY RESEARCH); AND (3) A DELEGATE OF THE BENITO JUAREZ SECTION OF THE CAPITAL CHARGED THAT THE USE OF DRUGS BY THE STUDENT POPULATION WAS "ONE OF THE MOST INHUMAN FORMS OF IMPERIALIST PENETRATION."

### 3. GOM ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

#### A. WITH US AUTHORITIES

ONE TON OF MARIJUANA SEIZED NEAR TECATE; FOUR ARRESTS. FOUR TONS OF MARIJUANA AND 500,000 "MINIBENNIES" SEIZED IN TIJUANA; ONE ARREST AND NOTED TRAFFICKER JESUS BELTRAN BEING SOUGHT.

DEA SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE (HERMOSILLO) ANTONIO CELAYA WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED DURING ENFORCEMENT ACTION AT LOS MOCHIS, SINALOA. HE HAS SINCE RECOVERED AND IS BACK AT WORK. IN THIS ACTION 1 KG. HEROIN WAS TAKEN; ONE TRAFFICKER KILLED AND ONE WOUNDED.

3.1 KG OPIUM SEIZED AT ACAPULCO, TWO ARRESTS.

26 OZ. HEROIN TAKEN AT CAMARGO, TAMAULIPAS; FOUR ARRESTS.

AS A RESULT OF INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY DEA, THE MEXICAN AG SENT A SPECIAL TEAM TO LA MESA PENITENTIARY, TIJUANA. IN A SUDDEN RAID THEY ARRESTED THE INFAMOUS TRAFFICKERS HELEN, ROBERT AND JUAN HERNANDEZ ("LOS BROTHERS"), WHO HAD BEEN DOING BUSINESS FOR YEARS FROM THEIR QUARTERS IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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PRISON. ALSO SEIZED WERE \$50,000 IN CASH, \$100,000 IN JEWELRY AND INVALUABLE INTELLIGENCE ON THEIR NARCOTICS RINGS'S OPERATION. THIS ACTION WAS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF HOW THE AG'S "TASK FORCE" APPROACH CAN BRING TO JUSTICE TRAFFICKERS WHO OTHERWISE MIGHT REMAIN UNTOUCHED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

OVER TEN TONS OF MARIJUANA SEIZED NEAR LA PESCA, MEXICO; EIGHT ARRESTS, THREE AIRCRAFT SEIZED.

ONE TON OF MARIJUANA SEIZED OCT. 24 IN TIJUANA. IN THE RESULTING INVESTIGATION ON OCT. 27 THE FOLLOWING WERE SEIZED: 25.7 KG. HEROIN, 3.1 KG. COCAINE, 6 AUTOMATIC PISTOLS, AND THREE DEFENDANTS. THIS, SO FAR AS WE KNOW, IS THE LARGEST SINGLE SEIZURE OF HEROIN EVER MADE IN MEXICO.

IN FURTHER INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE, ON OCT. 29 NINE TONS OF MARIJUANA WERE SEIZED AND ANOTHER THREE PERSONS ARRESTED AND ON THE FOLLOWING DAY AN ADDITIONAL 7 TONS OF MARIJUANA WERE SEIZED AND TWO MORE ARRESTS MADE. THE APPARENT RING LEADER, ANTONIO MORALES BELTRAN, IS STILL BEING SOUGHT.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MEXICO 10417

DEPT PASS DIA AA-7

DEPT PASS DEA HDQS FOR EOI - CUSACK

DEPT PASS CUSTOMS HDQS FOR DICKERSON

B. INDEPENDENT MEXICAN OPERATIONS

ONE MILLION "RED DEVILS" AND ONE TON MARIJUANA SEIZED  
IN TIJUANA; TEN ARRESTS.

240 GM. HEROIN SEIZED AT SAN LUIS, RIO COLORADO;  
2 BROTHERS ARRESTED.

350 GM. HEROIN AND 150 GM. COCAINE SEIZED IN MICHOACAN;  
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1 ARREST.

1. TON MARIJUANA SEIZED IN TIJUANA; THREE ARRESTS.

13 TONS MARIJUANA TAKEN IN MICHOACAN; NO ARRESTS.

600,000 " MINI-BENNIES" SEIZED IN TIJUANA; ONE ARREST.

2 TONS MARIJUANA SEIZED IN SONORA AND GUADALAJARA;  
3 ARRESTS.

1/2 KG. HEROIN SEIZED IN GUADALAJARA; ONE ARREST.

6.5 TONS MARIJUANA DECOMMISSIONED IN NOGALES.

6 TONS MARIJUANA SEIZED IN TIJUANA; TWO ARRESTED.

1.5 TONS MARIJUANA TAKEN NEAR CULIACAN, SINALOA;  
2 ARRESTS.

1 TON OF MARIJUANA SEIZED IN TIJUANA; NO ARRESTS.

7 KG. OPIUM GUM SEIZED IN GUADALAJARA; ONE ARREST.

4. TONS MARIJUANA TAKEN IN TIJUANA.

C. MONTHLY WRAPUP (OFFICIAL GOM)

OPIUM

FIELDS DESTROYED	671
AREA IN SQUARE METERS	2,317,456 M2
OPIUM GUM	7.3 KG.
SEEDS	900 GM
HEROIN	29.2 KG

COCAINE 4.7 KG.

AMPHETAMINES AND BARBITURATES 2,100,000 PILLS

MARIJUANA

FIELDS DESTROYED	817
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AREA IN SQUARE METERS	4,098,977 M2
MARIJUANA (DRY) SEIZED	88 TONS
SEED	578 KG.
HASHISH	14 KG.

AIRCRAFT SEIZED 4

AUTOMOBILES AND TRUCKS 110

ARRESTS

FOREIGNERS (MOSTLY US)	13
MEXICAN NATIONALS	240

(NOTE: OFFICIAL GOM STATISTICS FOR HEROIN, COCAINE,  
MARIJUANA AND PILLS SEIZED ACCORD CLOSELY THIS MONTH  
WITH THE EMBASSY'S UNOFFICIAL COMPILATION OF DEA  
REPORTS AND PRESS ACCOUNTS.)

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**TAGS:** SNAR, MX, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005